

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 RSR-01 RSC-01 TRSE-00 TAR-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4982

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FOR COMMERCE

E O 11652: ADS, DECONTROL 3-15-74

TAGS: ETRD, RP

SUBJ: PHILIPPINE CONSULATES' REQUEST FOR WHOLESALE PRICE LISTS

REF: A) STATE A-2279; B) STATE 064495

1. DURING CALL ON FINSEC VIRATA, EC/ COM COUNSELOR RAISED QUESTION OF QUOTE HOME CONSUMPTION PRICE UNQUOTE AS CONTAINED SECTION 201 REVISED TARIFF CODE, NOTING THAT GOP APPLICATION SECTION 201 HAS LED TO SOME CONFUSION AMONG U. S. EXPORTERS AND, IN AT LEAST ONE CASE (JAMES BEAM DISTILLING CO.), DELAY IN CLEARING SHIPMENT THROUGH CUSTOMS. WITH REGARD GOP EFFORTS OBTAIN COPIES OF WHOLESALE PRICE LISTS, EC/ COM COUNSELOR EXPLAINED THAT WHOLESALE PRICE MAY VARY DEPENDING ON SUCH FACTORS AS LABELING, SIZE OF ORDER, CONSIGNEE (INTRA- COMPANY SHIPMENTS) AND WHETHER OR NOT EXCISE TAXES INCLUDED.

2. ACCORDING VIRATA, COMPANIES SHOULD BE REQUESTED PROVIDE WHOLESALE PRICE LISTS ONLY WHEN DOUBT EXISTS REGARDING THE VALUE OR PRICE AS DECALRED IN THE CONSULAR OR COMMERCIAL INVOICE. IN VAST MAJORITY CASES, VIRATE SAID, PRICE INFORMATION IN CONSULAR OR COMMERCIAL INVOICE IS ACCEPTED.

3. REPRESENTATIVES U. S. AND OTHER FOREIGN COMPANIES HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INFORMED EMBOFFS THAT PHILIPPINE CONSULATES' REQUEST FOR WHOLESALE PRICE LISTS IS FAIRLY WIDESPREAD PRACTICE. MOST COMPANIES ANTICIPATE NO PROBLEMS IN COMPLYING WITH REQUESTS OR IN EXPLAINING PRICE DIFFERENCES, IF ANY, DETERMINED BY SIZE OF ORDER, ETC.

4. EMBASSY NOOR RE- ELECTED OCAM PRESIDENT FOR COMING YEAR WITHOUT OPPOSITION AND DELIVERED EXTENDED REPORT ON OCAM PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS.

3. SENGHOR'S MAIN PROPOSAL WAS THAT, WHILE " NEW OCAM TASKS" COULD NOT BE DECIDED PORT LOUIS, SUCH ROLE SHOULD BE " THEME 1974 OCAM SESSION." IN INTERVENING MONTHS HE WOULD PREPARE " PRE- REPORT" FOR SUBMISSION CHIEFS OF STATE BY THIS DECEMBER. HE ENDORSED FONMINS SUGGESTION THAT SIX- MEMBER COMMITTEE EARLIER BE SENT TO EXPLAIN TO EACH HEAD OF STATE OCAM' S ACTUAL SITUATION AND NEW TASKS WHICH COULD BE PROPOSED FOR IT. MAJOR TASK FOR OCAM IN 1973-74, SAID SENGHOR, WOULD BE TO STUDY CREATION, AMONG OCAM MEMBERS ASSOCIATED TO EC, OF FREE TRADE AREA COMPARABLE THAT WHICH UNITES EACH OF THEM TO EUROPE. SUCH ORGANIZATION WOULD REMAIN OPEN TO ALL AFRICAN STATES, REGARDLESS THEIR ASSOCIATION EC. SENGHOR ALSO RECOMMENDED RECONSTITUTION SUB- REGIONAL GROUPINGS WEST AFRICA IN CONTEXT FORMER FEDERATIONS AOF- TOGO AND AEF- CAMEROON, SINCE " INDEPENDENCE IN BALKANIZATION (IS) A POISONED APPLE".

4. RE COMING TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH EC, SENGHOR STRONGLY ENDORSED PRINCIPLE REVERSE PREFERENCES, ASSERTING THAT, WITHOUT THEM, THERE NO QUESTION ESTABLISHMENT FREE TRADE ZONE WHICH ONLY LEGAL MEANS UNDER GATT FOR MAINTAINING " OUR PRIVILEGED RELATIONS WITH EUROPE". " CERTAIN AMERICANS -- SOUTH AS WELL AS NORTH -- AND CERTAIN ASIANS" PREFERRED " DESTROY EURO- AFRICAN ASSOCIATION". THIS CONNECTION, SENGHOR REFERRED HIS MARCH VISIT BRUSSELS, NOTING NEED OBTAIN FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EC STABILIZATION AFRICAN EXPORT EARNINGS THROUGH GUARANTEED, REMUNERATIVE PRICES FOR BASIC PRODUCTS AND RECOGNITION COMMUNITY FINANCIAL AID AS EFFORT RELIEVE CONSEQUENCES DETERIORATION IN RATES OF EXCHANGE. SENGHOR RECALLED RECENT USG DELEGATION BRUSSELS HAD BEEN TOLD BY COMMISSION THAT ENLARGED EC HAD UNDERTAKINGS VIS- A- VIS AFRICANS TO WHICH IT WOULD BE FAITHFUL. HOWEVER, HE WENT ON COMMENT FAVORABLY ON COMMISSION PROPOSAL PERMIT AFRICAN ASSOCIATES ACCORD THIRD COUNTRIES PREFERENCES SIMILAR THOSE TO BE GRANTED EC . THIS AND COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION RE GUARANTEED EXPORT PRICES SHOULD, SENGHOR OPINED, ENCOURAGE ANGLOPHONE AFRICANS VIEW EC ASSOCIATION MORE FAVORABLY.

5. ON OTHER MATTERS, SENGHOR OPINED " AIR AFRIQUE" NOT REQUIRED

BE SUBORDINATE OCAM DECISIONS BUT AT SAME TIME MUST NOT FOLLOW POLICY OF PARTICULAR STATE OR ONE OF WASTEFULNESS. ON THORNY ISSUE OCAM MEMBER WITHDRAWAL WHILE REMAINING AFFILIATED OCAM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, SENGHOR OPINED DECISION SHOULD BE DEFERRED AT LEAST UNTIL ANOTHER COUNTRY AFTER CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE SHOULD SEEK DEPART. SENGHOR ALSO PROPOSED FUTURE OCAM BUDGETS BE APPROVED IN ADVANCE THEIR EXECUTION AND THAT PER DIEM COSTS DELEGATIONS SHOULD IN FUTURE BE OCAM RESPONSIBILITY LEST MEMBERS BE UNWILLING HOST CONFERENCES. HE ALSO MADE PASSING REFERENCE TO MOVING TOWARD EVENTUAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITY FOR AFRICA BY FOUNDING WEST AFRICAN PAYMENTS UNION.

6. PRESS REPORTS FRENCH AMB AND OCAM SEC GEN SIGNED AGREEMENT MAY 3 PROVIDING FOR 2.3 MILLION RUPEES (SOME \$470,000) FRENCH AID TO PERMIT CONSTRUCTION OCAM " CENTRE DE PERFECTIONNEMENT A LA GESTION DES ENTERPRISES" IN ABIDJAN.

7. SINCE SENGHOR (SEPTTEL) AND POSSIBLY BONGO NOW DEPARTING MAY 6, FORMAL CLOSURE SUMMIT NOW FIXED FOR LATE MAY 5.

8. COMMENT: SENGHOR' S REMARKS IN LINE HIS EARLIER PRIVATE COMMENTS (PORT LOUIS 0418) AND MAKE CLEAR LITTLE POSITIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS LIKELY PORT LOUIS CONCLAVE.
BREWER

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